

Appln. No. 09/696,095  
Amdt. dated October 29, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of August 2, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 40-47 and add new claims 48-56 as follows. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-47 (Cancelled).

Claim 48 (New). A printing information distributing apparatus adapted to be connected through a network to portable terminals and printers provided at different locations, the printing information distributing apparatus comprising:

5       printing information storage means for storing printing information items;

          printing reservation means, adapted to be connected to the portable terminals through the network, for transmitting a printing reservation screen image to reserve a printing  
10   information item to one of the portable terminals in response to access from the one of the portable printers, storing identification information for retrieving a reserved printing information item, corresponding to reservation information

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showing the reserved printing information item, in reservation  
15 information storing means in response to a printing reservation  
operation by the one of the portable terminals;

receiving means for receiving identification information  
input in one of the printers by user operation and transmitted  
from the one of the printers;

20 reading means for retrieving the reservation information  
storage means based on the identification information received by  
the receiving means, and reading the reservation information  
corresponding to the identification information from the  
reservation information storage means; and

25 transmitting means for reading from the printing  
information storage means the printing information item  
corresponding to the reservation information read by the reading  
means, and printing out the printing information item by  
transmitting the printing information item to the one of the  
30 printers through the network.

Claim 49 (New). A printing information distributing  
apparatus according to claim 48, wherein the transmitting means  
transmits charge information showing a printing charge of the  
printing information item to the one of the printers, and

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- 5 transmits the printing information item to the one of the  
printers when an amount corresponding to the charge information  
is paid.

Claim 50 (New). A printing information distributing  
apparatus according to claim 49, wherein the printers comprise  
money entry means for paying an amount corresponding to the  
charge information.

Claim 51 (New). A printing information distributing  
apparatus adapted to be connected to portable terminals and  
printers through a network, the printing information distributing  
apparatus comprising:

- 5 printing reservation means for storing reservation  
information of printing information which has been reserved by  
one of the portable terminals accessing a printing reservation  
site in the network corresponding to identification information  
of the one of the portable terminals in storage means;  
10 reading means for receiving identification information  
transmitted from one of the printers and reading from the storage  
means reservation information of the printing information  
corresponding to the received identification information; and

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transmitting means for transmitting the printing  
15 information, corresponding to the reservation information which  
has been read, to the one of the printers through the network and  
printing out the printing information by the one of the printers.

Claim 52 (New). A printing information distributing  
apparatus according to claim 51, wherein the transmitting means  
transmits charge information showing a printing charge of the  
printing information to the one of the printers, and transmits  
5 the printing information to the one of the printers when an  
amount corresponding to the charge information is paid.

Claim 53 (New). A printing information distributing  
apparatus according to claim 52, wherein the printers comprise  
money entry means for paying an amount corresponding to the  
charge information.

Claim 54 (New). A printing information distributing  
apparatus adapted to be connected to portable terminals and  
printers through a network, the printing information distributing  
apparatus comprising:

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5 reservation means for storing reservation information  
corresponding to user identification information of one of the  
portable terminals in storage means when the one of the portable  
terminals accesses a printing reservation site in the network and  
reserves printing information in the printing reservation site;  
10 and

transmitting means for receiving user identification  
information of a portable terminal from a printer, referring to  
the reservation information stored in the storage means based on  
the received user identification information, and transmitting  
15 the printing information corresponding to the reservation  
information to the printer;

wherein the printer transmits the user identification  
information of the one of the portable terminals to the printing  
information distributing apparatus, receives the printing  
20 information transmitted from the printing information  
distributing apparatus, and prints out the received printing  
information.

Claim 55 (New). A printing information distributing  
apparatus according to claim 54, wherein the transmitting means  
transmits charge information showing a printing charge of the

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printing information to the printer, and transmits the printing  
5 information to the printer when an amount corresponding to the  
charge information is paid.

Claim 56 (New). A printing information distributing  
apparatus according to claim 55, wherein the printer comprises  
money entry means for paying an amount corresponding to the  
charge information.